



Developing Tomorrow's Skills and Building Community: Innovations from Australia's adult and community education providers

Dr Don Perlgut & Evelyn Goodwin, Community Colleges Australia, 16 August 2018



Australian Community Education

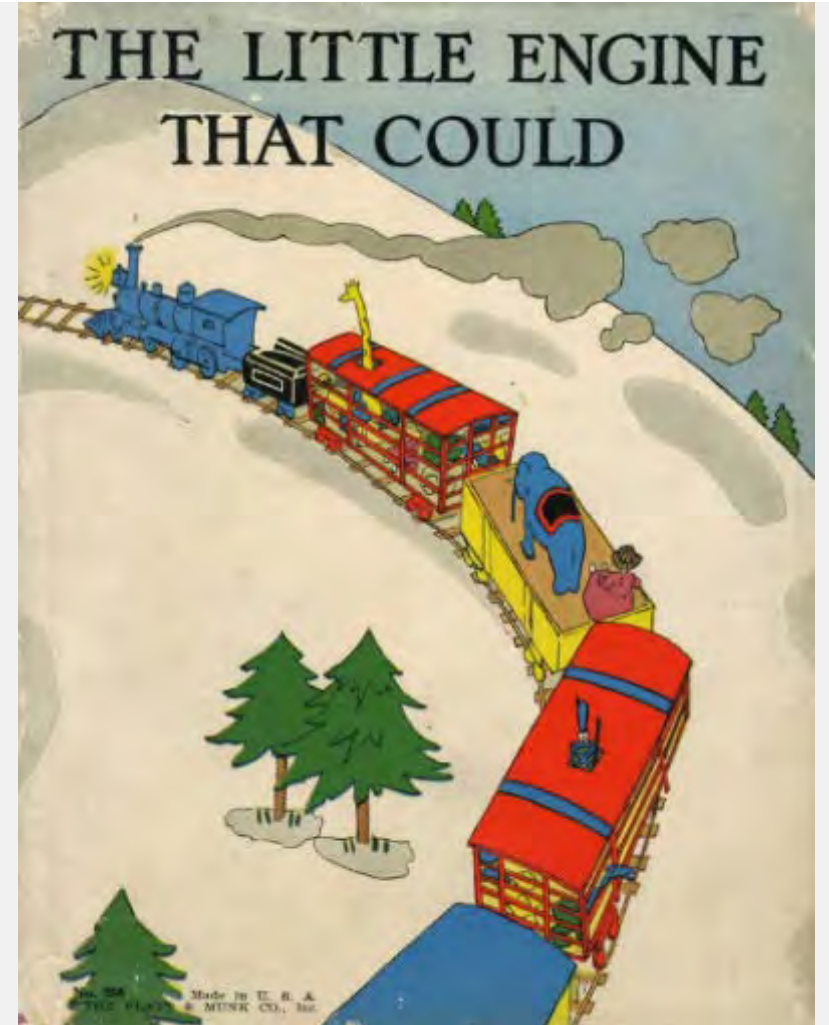
History: NFP community-based learning going back >100 years

Branding: Often confused with TAFE and private for-profit providers

Business: Public perception of non-accredited adult education

Focus: Increasingly on vulnerable and disadvantaged, foundation skills

Numbers: 450 providers serving 380,000 VET students, 9% of Australia's 4.2 million learners (NCVER, 2017)





Strategic Influence of Australian Community Education Providers

1. Flexible, agile and quick, employing a wide range of tools and freedom to take risks
2. Not bound by government structures like TAFEs
3. Complement state & national programs to develop job skills, encourage economic development & enable citizen participation
4. Collaborations with government, NFPs & businesses
5. Not beholden to private shareholders to make profit like for-profit providers
7. Invest in local communities, building human, social & economic capital
8. Small class sizes, personal support, learner-centred





Producing results





Community education government-funded VET students include the most disadvantaged

65.6% of students are the most socially and economically disadvantaged (bottom two SEIFA quintiles), compared to **55.2%** of TAFE and **56.2%** of private for-profit providers.

(NSW 2017 data,
NCVER July 2018)





Highest percentage of VET students with disabilities

19.7% of community students have a disability, compared to **12.1%** of TAFE and **8.9%** of private providers.





Catering for older learners

35.8% of VET students are aged 45 or over, compared to **19.0%** of TAFE and **14.7%** of private providers.

Community providers reach older workers best.





Community education students are Indigenous

13.4% of Govt-funded VET students are Indigenous, compared to TAFE with **9.6%** and **7.0%** of private providers.



Photo: Graduating Indigenous land management trainees at Port Macquarie, courtesy of Port Macquarie Community College and Birpai Aboriginal Land Council, June 2018.



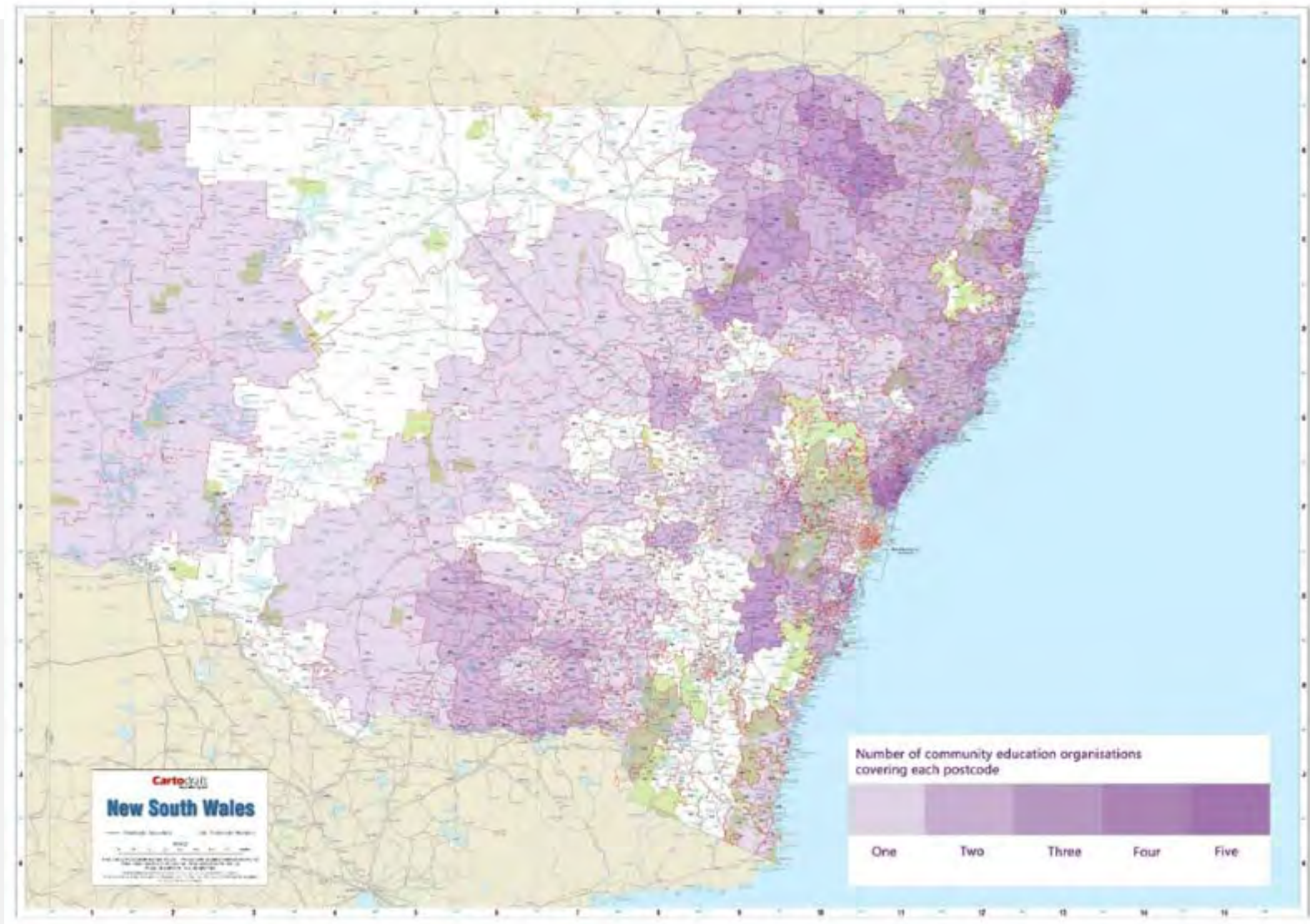
Regional and rural focus

63.8% of our students are regional and rural, compared to **36.6%** of TAFE and **32.6%** of private providers.





NSW regional sector coverage





INNOVATION

WHAT'S NEXT
FOR COMMUNITY
EDUCATION?

“The best way to predict
the future is to invent it.”

ALAN KAY



Aboriginal driver training
Licensed and on
the Road



<https://www.acecolleges.edu.au/community/aboriginal-driver-education-program/>



Youth Employment & Skills Development



NextGEN Digital DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Do you (or someone you know) love social media, web & graphic design, writing, marketing or IT ?

This program offers 3 hours per week of paid employment doing real digital work for real clients, a Certificate II in skills for Work & Vocational Pathways FSK20113 with a focus on digital media and invaluable work experience.

Commences:

Wollongong: Tuesday 6 February, then every Tuesday & Wednesday for 15 weeks

Kiama: Thursday 8 February, then every Thursday & Friday for 15 weeks

**LAST
COURSE...
LIMITED
SPACES!**



Note: applicants must be aged 15-24 and meet other eligibility criteria.

NextGEN Digital Development is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment as part of the Empowering YOUTH Initiatives.

Kiama Community College Inc. RTO ID 90087

W: kcc.nsw.edu.au **P:** 02 4232 1050 **E:** info@kcc.nsw.edu.au



Sustainability and Permaculture



The main campus building is a retrofit of an old electricity depot and has been designed to be both energy efficient and innovative. The design was based on passive solar principles to maximise natural light, fresh air flow, summer coolness and winter warmth.

There are 180 solar panels which generate 30 kW of power to feed back into the grid. You can see the 6 x 5 Kw inverters in the small exhibition space and a display of power generated on the screen. This saves on coal fired electricity and generates income for the complex.

Solar hot water system

Passive solar design includes north facing windows to catch the winter sun, high louvers to let out hot air, a north facing veranda to access winter sun and thermal mass in the tiles to store winter warmth.

Many windows are tinted to reduce heat transfer. The roof and walls are highly insulated and light coloured roofing to reflect heat. Saving on power for heating and cooling means less green house gas emissions.

Many rooms have LED down lights and/or compact fluorescents. Others have T5 fluoros with reflector plates.

Eaves are designed to allow winter sun to penetrate and summer sun to be excluded.

Some appliances have been chosen for their high energy star rating such as the 5 star rated LED screen in the foyer and the induction stove in the kitchen. ★★★★★

The landscaping includes a local native garden and herbal tea garden in Gordon Street. Herbs and shrubs provide refreshing drinks that cut down on packaging and food miles.



Facilities for web conferencing save on travel. The buildings are available for community and cultural events.

The College endeavours to improve our environmental behaviours and policies. All rooms have recycling bins, paper reuse containers, mugs and tea pots for brewing tea from the garden. We are committed to using recycled photocopy paper. Green cleaning products are used on the building.

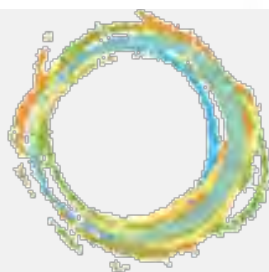
Lights and fans in the toilets are connected to motion sensors which auto switch off after you leave.

There are dual flush toilets, waterless urinals, low flow taps and a water tank for water efficiency.

Cardiff air system in rooms 2 & 3 draws in cool air from the south side and circulates the air through the rooms.

The sprung wooden floor is local plantation Blackbutt coated in low VOC finish. The carpeting is 100% wool with rubber underlay which are both renewable resources and do not contain the chemicals present in many carpets.

To find out more, look for the environmental 'e' features' signs throughout the building.



byron
community
college

<https://www.byroncollege.org.au/Sustainability>

Seven Principles of Education for sustainability

Transformation and change... equip people with the skills, capacity and motivation to plan and manage change towards sustainability within an organisation, industry or community.

Education for all and lifelong learning is driven by a broad understanding of education and learning that includes people of all ages and backgrounds and takes place within all possible learning spaces.

Systems thinking... equip people to understand connections between environmental, economic, social and political systems.

Envisioning a better future... engage people in developing a shared vision for a sustainable future.

Critical thinking and reflection... value the capacity of individuals and groups to reflect on personal experiences and worldviews, and to challenge accepted ways of interpreting and engaging with the world.

Participation... at all levels is critical for engaging groups and individuals in sustainability.

Partnerships for change... make use of genuine partnerships to build networks and relationships, and improve communication between different sectors of society.

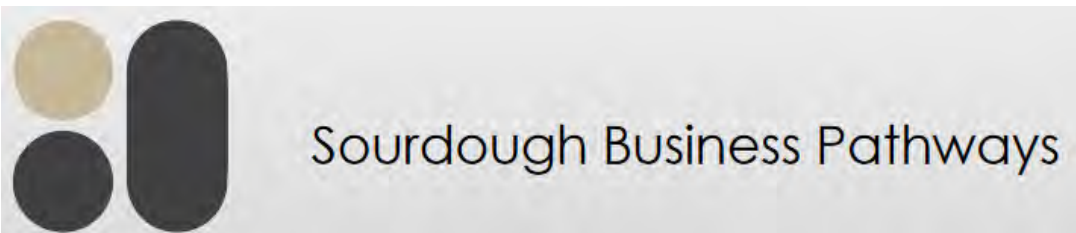
These principles were developed collaboratively among EIS practitioners around 2006 and published in Living Sustainability: The Australian Government's National Action Plan for Education for Sustainability (DCEWR 2009).

Katrina Shields & Lisa Hoggard

Sustainability for Educators: A Toolkit of Learning Activities and Resources



Business Incubators



Business **growth** Centre

Ever dreamt of starting your own business, but have no idea where to start? We can help you!

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<https://sbp.org.au/>

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2 McCallum Partners	15 EEHA Engineers
3 McCallum Partners	16 Aussie Custom Golf
4 EEHA Engineers	17 Aussie Custom Golf
5 Hayden Mobile Testing	18 Computer Doctor
6 Hayden Mobile Testing	19 Computer Doctor
7 A Growing Understanding	20 Available
8 A Growing Understanding	21 Go Organic
9 Carnelian Property Management	22 Fruit & Veg Delivery
10 One Coat Solutions	WHAT'S HAPPENING:
11 Inspired EC	
12 Inspired EC	
13 Inflate 2 Live	

<http://www.businessgrowthcentre.org.au/>



Social Enterprises

JobQuest
Connecting People and Skills

**Handyman
service**



<https://www.jobquest.org.au/social-enterprise-services>



Regional Innovation

SouthCoast
CAREERS COLLEGE

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<http://ulladullirious.com.au/>



Leveraging Philanthropy: Aussie Farmers Foundation

Get Set: Enhancing Wellbeing Amongst Rural Women

Aims to help rural women thrive in their communities. Workshops across six rural communities included mental health, economic wellbeing and internet/computer skills. Celebrated rural women with local female heroes speaking at each workshop.

<https://youtu.be/X3DeXVovbog>
<https://www.riverinacc.edu.au/aussiefarmers>





Special Assistance Secondary Schools



Central Coast, NSW



ALESCO
Learning Centre Illawarra



**WESTERN RIVERINA
COMMUNITY SCHOOL**





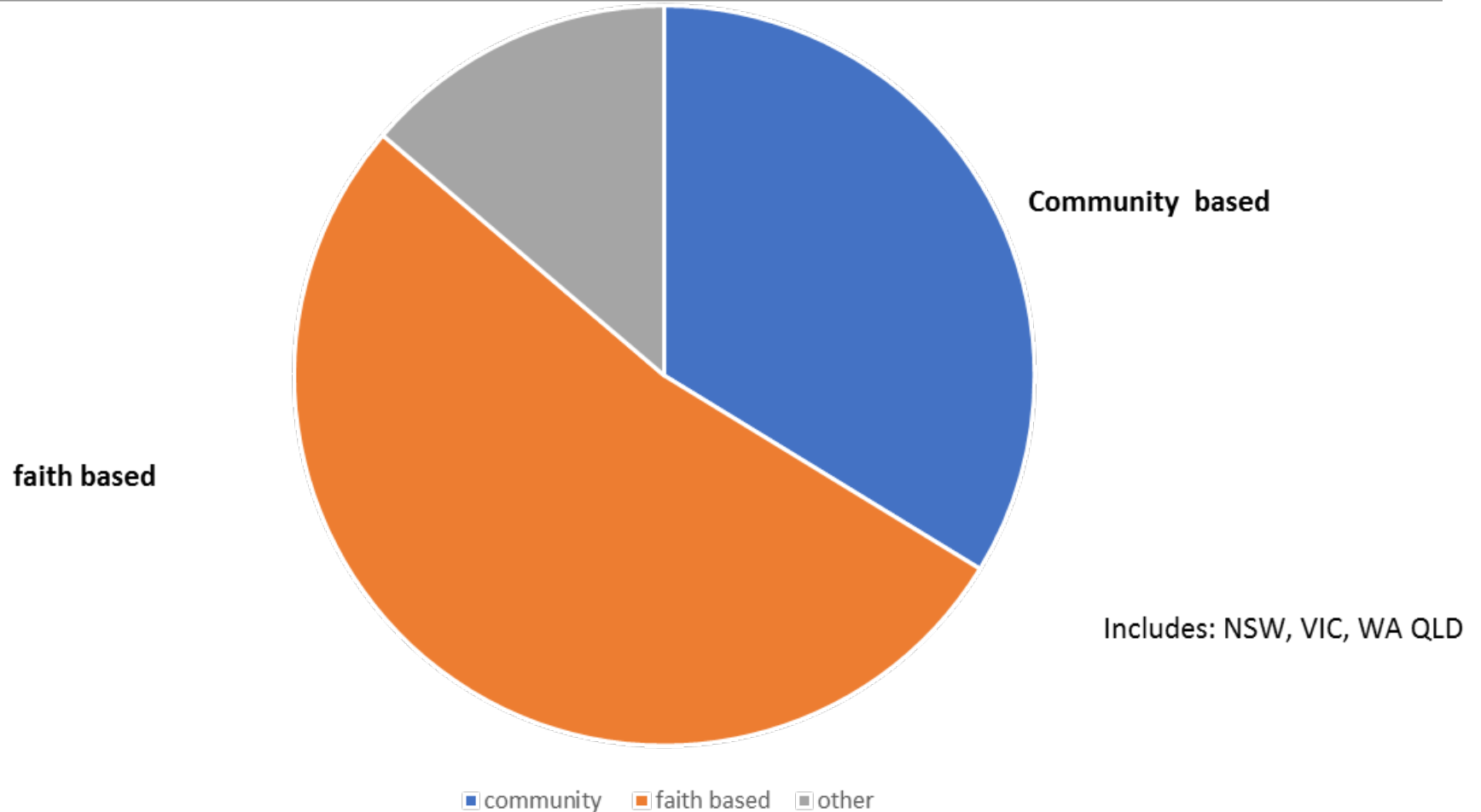
Special Assistance Secondary Schools





ACE is a force in special assistance schools

Special Assistance School by type





Special Assistance School Approaches

- Put the young person at the centre
- Address personal wellbeing first
- Provide wrap around services
- Learning relevant and meaningful to individual
- Are holistic and lateral rather than linear
- Require highly skilled and resilient staff and support – teachers, youth workers, psych services and support etc
- Focus on educational outcomes
- Networked in their communities





Why innovation works at community education providers

- Build on local and regional strengths
- Develop and sustain partnerships between government, not-for-profit community and businesses
- Collaborate with others in ACE sector, leveraging collective strengths
- Quality lateral “just in time” solutions adapt as needs change
- Funding from non-local sources, leveraging to assist local community and economic development
- Culture of entrepreneurship and “can do”



Taking the Lead: Building Community

Community Colleges Australia
Annual Conference

Sydney, 13-15 November 2018

<https://cca.edu.au/what-we-do/2018-cca-annual-conference/>



Community Colleges Australia

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